

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 14, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 9 as follows:

Further detail of the chambers and nozzles of the particular printhead of the example is given in figure 5, which is a sectional view taken along a fluid chamber of a module 40 (figure. 2). The fluid chambers take the form of channels, 11, machined or otherwise formed in a base component 860 of piezoelectric material so as to define piezoelectric channel walls which are subsequently coated with electrodes, thereby to form channel wall actuators, as known e.g. from EP-A-0 277 703. Each channel half is closed along a length 600, 610 by respective sections 820, 830 of a cover component 620 which is also formed with ports 630, 640, 650 that communicate with fluid manifolds 210, 220, 230 (figures. 3 and 4) respectively. A break in the electrodes at 810 allows the channel walls in either half of the channel to be operated independently by means of electrical signals applied via electrical inputs (flexible circuits 60, see figure. 2). Ink injection from each channel half is via openings 840, 850 that communicate the channel with the opposite surface of the piezoelectric base component to that in which the channel is formed. Nozzles 870, 880 for ink ejection are subsequently formed in a nozzle plate 890 attached to the piezoelectric component.

At page 15, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 7 as follows:

It will also be evident that the rate of fluid flow along the inlet manifold will decrease with distance along the array (and away from the inlet bore in one of the endcaps 90, (see figure. 2) as the number of channels remaining to be supplied with fluid decreases. Similarly, the rate of fluid flow in the outlet manifolds will increase as the number of channels exhausting ink into those manifolds increases with distance along the array.

At page 24, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 1 as follows:

During initial filling of the printhead, the valve 3050 (which is at the lowest point of the system) is closed and the diverter valve 5000 takes a second position 5004, as shown in Figure 10b. This allows the printhead to be filled from the bottom up with ink pumped from the lower reservoir. During filling, bypass valve 5012 may be opened. When open, this

valve connects the inlet and outlet manifolds of the printhead at the opposite end to the connecting pipes, and thus allows fluid and air to pass from one to the other without having to pass down the printhead channels. This is a much lower impedance path, allowing higher fluid velocities and therefore permits the passage of air when it would not pass through the channels.